| 1  | 1 MARY ANN SMITH Deputy Commissioner   |  |  |  |
|----|--|--|--|--|
| 2  | DOUGLAS M. GOODING   |  |  |  |
| 3  | Assistant Chief Counsel TIMOTHY L. Le BAS (SBN 135565)   |  |  |  |
| 4  | Senior Corporations Counsel  |  |  |  |
| 5  | DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS OVERSIGHT<br>1515 K Street, Suite 200                                   |  |  |  |
| 6  | Sacramento, California 95814<br>(916) 322-2050 telephone                                       |  |  |  |
| 7  | (916) 445-6985 facsimile   |  |  |  |
| 8  | Attorneys for Complainant  |  |  |  |
| 9  |  |  |  |  |
| 10 | BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS OVERSIGHT  |  |  |  |
| 11 | OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA   |  |  |  |
| 12 | In the Matter of CRD NO. 166561  |  |  |  |
| 13 | THE COMMISSIONER OF BUSINESS ) CONSENT ORDER   |  |  |  |
| 14 | OVERSIGHT, )   |  |  |  |
| 15 | Complainant, ) v. )  |  |  |  |
| 16 |  |  |  |  |
| 17 | Rama Capital Partners, LLC,  |  |  |  |
| 18 | ) Respondent. )  |  |  |  |
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| 21 | I. CONSENT ORDER   |  |  |  |
| 22 | This CONSENT ORDER ("Order") is entered into by and between the Complainant,                   |  |  |  |
| 23 | California Department of Business Oversight ("Department"), by and through the California      |  |  |  |
| 24 | Commissioner of Business Oversight ("Commissioner") and the Respondent, Rama Capital Partners, |  |  |  |
| 25 | LLC, (hereinafter collectively the "Parties").   |  |  |  |
| 26 | II. RECITALS   |  |  |  |
| 27 | This Order is made with reference to the following facts:                                      |  |  |  |
| 28 | A. Rama is a California limited liability company, formed June 18, 2008, with its principal    |  |  |  |
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CONSENT ORDER

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1 place of business at 26901 Agoura Road, Suite 250, Calabasas, California 91301. 2 On October 22, 2013, the Department issued orders to Rama to: (a) desist and refrain 3 from unlicensed investment adviser activities, and (b) pay a penalty of thirty-five thousand 4 dollars (\$35,000.00) to the Department. Rama obtained a license on October 31, 2013. 5 C. However, on or about April 28, 2016, Rama filed an application for an investment adviser certificate with the Department. The application revealed that Rama again was engaged 6 7 in unlicensed investment adviser activities. 8 D. On its application, Rama admitted that it was currently providing investment advice for 9 a fee. The application disclosed that Rama advises the Rama Fund, LLC and manages the assets of this fund. 10 11 E. When the Department inquired about Rama's investment adviser activities, Rama fully 12 13

cooperated. Rama indicated that its counsel intended to file a full withdrawal (Form ADV-W) to return to state registration and instead mistakenly withdrew from both the SEC and state registration, thereby causing Rama to be unlicensed at the State level for a five (5) month period.

F. The Department finds, based upon the information provided by Rama, that Rama was engaged in unlicensed investment adviser activity through the date hereof, in violation of CSL section 25230(a).

NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, and the terms and conditions set forth herein, the Parties agree as follows:

## III. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- 1. **Purpose:** The purpose of this Order is to settle and resolve the issues between the Parties hereto, for judicial economy and expediency, and to avoid the expense of a hearing, and possible further court proceedings.
- 2. **Waiver of Hearing Rights**: Rama acknowledges the right to a hearing under the Corporate Securities Law of 1968 in connection with this Order and the application for an investment adviser certificate and hereby waives that right to a hearing, and to any reconsideration, appeal, or other right to review which may be afforded pursuant to the Corporate Securities Law of 1968, the

- 3. **Acknowledgement:** Rama stipulates to the issuance of the Order and acknowledges that this action can be used in future proceedings that may be initiated by or brought before the Department. The Parties agree that this Order and any acknowledgements hereunder shall not be admissible or binding against Rama in any action(s) brought against Rama by third parties that are not signatories to this Order or in any other proceedings except as expressly permitted by this paragraph 3 before the Department.
- 4. Certification: Rama stipulates to undertake all appropriate steps designed to assure full compliance with the laws of California in connection with the licensing of Rama's business as an investment adviser. Rama acknowledges that failure to comply under this Order shall be a breach of this Order and shall be cause for the Commissioner to immediately revoke any licenses held by, and/or deny any pending application(s) of Rama, its successors and assigns, by whatever names they might be known. Rama hereby waives any notice and hearing rights to contest such revocations and/or denial(s) which may be afforded under the Corporate Securities Law of 1968, the California Administrative Procedure Act, the California Code of Civil Procedure, or any other provision of law in connection with this action.
- 5. **Desist and Refrain Order**: The Department finds that Rama has conducted business as an investment adviser in this state without first securing from the Commissioner a certificate, then in effect, in violation of Corporations Code section 25230, subdivision (a). Accordingly, Rama is hereby ordered to desist and refrain from acting as an investment adviser in the State of California unless and until it has first applied for and secured from the Commissioner a certificate authorizing it to act as an investment adviser, or unless exempt. This Order is necessary, in the public interest, for the protection of investors, and consistent with the purpose, policies and provisions of the Corporate Securities Law of 1968.
- 6. **Administrative Penalties**: Rama (or its counsel on Rama's behalf) agrees to pay to the Commissioner penalties totaling, in the aggregate, ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) ("Penalties"). Such Penalties shall be paid by Rama within thirty (30) days of the date of the Order. The check

shall be made payable to "The Department of Business Oversight," and shall be sent by Rama to the following address:

Timothy L. Le Bas, Senior Corporations Counsel
Department of Business Oversight
1515 K St., Suite 200
Sacramento, CA 95814

In the event the payment due date falls on a weekend or holiday, the payment shall be due the next business day. Rama acknowledges that failure to timely pay the Penalties in this Order shall be a breach of this Order and shall be cause for the Commissioner to immediately revoke any licenses held by, and/or deny any pending application(s) of Rama, its successors and assigns, by whatever names they might be known. Rama hereby waives any notice and hearing rights to contest such revocations and/or denial(s) which may be afforded under the Corporate Securities Law of 1968, the California Administrative Procedure Act, the California Code of Civil Procedure, or any other provision of law in connection therewith.

- 7. **Future Actions by the Commissioner**: Other than as to the matters resolved herein, the Commissioner reserves the right to bring any future action(s) against Rama and/or any of the officers, directors, shareholders, or employees of Rama for any and all unknown or future violations of the Corporate Securities Act of 1968. Other than as to the matters resolved herein, this Order shall not serve to exculpate Rama or any of the officers, directors, shareholders, or employees of Rama from liability for any and all unknown or future violations of the Corporate Securities Act of 1968.
- 8. **Effective Date:** This Order shall not become effective until signed and dated by each of the parties hereto.
- 9. **Order Coverage**: The Parties hereby acknowledge and agree that this Order is intended to constitute a full, final, and complete resolution of this matter (including, but not limited to, any and all assertions by the Department that Rama has allegedly engaged in unlicensed investment adviser activity through the effective date of this Order). The Parties further acknowledge and agree, except as provided in paragraph 3, above, that nothing contained in this Order shall operate to limit the Commissioner's ability to cooperate with any other agency, county, state or federal, with any

prosecution, administrative, civil or criminal, brought by any such agency against Rama based upon any of the activities alleged in this matter or otherwise.

- 10. **Independent Legal Advice**: Each of the Parties represents, warrants, and agrees that it has received or been advised to seek independent legal advice from its attorneys with respect to the advisability of executing this Order.
- 11. **No Other Representation**: Each of the parties represents, warrants, and agrees that in executing this Order it has relied solely on the statements set forth herein and the advice of its own counsel. Each of the parties further represents, warrants, and agrees that in executing this Order it has placed no reliance on any statement, representation, or promise of any other party, or any other person or entity not expressly set forth herein, or upon the failure of any party or any other person or entity to make any statement, representation or disclosure of anything whatsoever. The parties have included this clause: (1) to preclude any claim that any party was in any way fraudulently induced to execute this Order; and (2) to preclude the introduction of parol evidence to vary, interpret, supplement, or contradict the terms of this Order.
- 12. **Modifications and Qualified Integration**: No amendment, change or modification of this Order shall be valid or binding to any extent unless it is in writing and signed by all of the parties affected by it.
- 13. **Full Integration**: This Order is the final written expression and the complete and exclusive statement of all the agreements, conditions, promises, representations, and covenants between the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof, and supersedes all discussions between and among the parties, their respective representatives, and any other person or entity, with respect to the subject matter covered hereby.
- 14. **No Presumption From Drafting**: In that the parties have had the opportunity to draft, review and edit the language of this Order, no presumption for or against any party arising out of drafting all or any part of this Order will be applied in any action relating to, connected to, or involving this Order. Accordingly, the parties waive the benefit of Civil Code section 1654 and any successor or amended statute, providing that in cases of uncertainty, language of a contract should be interpreted most strongly against the party who caused the uncertainty to exist.

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| and when each party has signed and delivered at least one such counterpart to the other party, each         |
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| counterpart shall be deemed an original and taken together shall constitute one and the same Order.         |
| This Order may be executed via original signatures exchanged by facsimile or electronic means.              |
| 16. <b>Headings and Governing Law</b> : The headings to the paragraphs of this Order are inserted           |
| for convenience only and will not be deemed a part hereof or affect the construction or interpretation      |
| of the provisions hereof. This Order shall be construed and enforced in accordance with, and                |
| governed by, the laws of the State of California.   |
| 17. <b>Authority For Settlement</b> : Each party warrants and represents that such party is fully           |
| entitled and duly authorized to enter into and deliver this Order. In particular, and without limiting      |
| the generality of the foregoing, each party warrants and represents that it is fully entitled to enter into |
| the covenants, and undertake the obligations set forth herein.  |
| 18. <b>Public Record</b> : Rama hereby acknowledges that this enforcement action and Order will be a        |
| matter of public record.  |
| 19. <b>Voluntary Agreement</b> : The Parties each represent and acknowledge that he, she, or it is          |
| executing this Order completely voluntarily and without any duress or undue influence of any kind           |
| from any source.  |
| IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have approved and executed this Order on the                         |
| dates set forth opposite their respective signatures.   |
| Dated:10/18/16 Commissioner of Business Oversight   |
|   |
| By<br>MARY ANN SMITH  |
| Deputy Commissioner   |
| Enforcement Division  |
| Dated: <u>10/13/16</u>  |
| Dv  |
| By  |
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CONSENT ORDER

Counterparts: This Order may be executed in any number of counter-parts by the Parties,

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| ByKEVIN KIM Attorney on Behalf of Rama Capital Partners, LLC | Approved as to Form and Content |
|--|---------------------------------|
| REVIN KIN Attorney on Behalf of Rama Capital Partners, LLC   | Dated:10/14/16                  |
| REVIN KIN Attorney on Behalf of Rama Capital Partners, LLC   |                                 |
| KEVIN Kin Attorney on Behalf of Rama Capital Partners, LLC   |                                 |
| 7  | Attorney on Behalf of           |
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| CONSENT ORDER  |                                 |